

BAKER SAYS T. R. CAN LEAD TROOPS

Age No Bar to Commission if Colonel Gets Men, Washington Report.

HUNDREDS WIRE OFFERING SERVICES

Roosevelt Silent, but Could Recruit 20,000, Including Additional Cavalry Brigade.

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, June 28.—There will be no special opposition to commissioning Colonel Roosevelt as a volunteer officer, administration officials indicated today, if volunteers are called for and he supplies a unit. The acceptance of any volunteers raised by him would necessarily entail commissioning him as their leader, with whatever rank the size and organization of the unit entitled him to.

If he heads a brigade, and the brigade is acceptable, Colonel Roosevelt will be its brigadier general. If he leads a division, he will get a major general's commission.

Secretary Baker said that, as he understood it, the colonel's age would not debar him.

"There are some men," he said, "to whom we can apply Shakespeare's line in Cleopatra, 'Age cannot wither her, nor custom stale her infinite variety.'"

When military experts, who had not been consulted on the planning of the division Colonel Theodore Roosevelt intends offering President Wilson, in the event of war with Mexico, saw the announcement yesterday, they declared as one man that the division as outlined would be the ideal force to operate in Mexico.

"Given a division so constituted, with its extra brigade of cavalry and a position reasonably near the front," they declared, "Roosevelt would proceed so fast into Mexico that the rest of his army would not see him for dust."

"Against German or Japanese troops it would get nowhere, but operating under the conditions that prevail in Mexico and against troops of the Mexican standard the extra mobility given it by the additional brigade of cavalry would make it an enormous ground gainer and the artillery and infantry would give the necessary punch."

"Whoever it was aided T. R. in laying that organization down on paper certainly knew his trade."

20,000 Would Take Field.

Incidentally such a division, technically known as a "reinforced brigade" because of the additional brigade of cavalry, would, with the engineer, aeroplane and other detachments, number about 20,000 men. The 12,000 men as stated in the first description, in cavalry, since the four regiments constituting the double brigade would number 5,000 men, the three regiments of infantry 5,000 and the artillery another 5,000.

A mere matter of 8,000 more men would not in the least interfere with the carrying out of the programme, for, though comparatively few knew where the column could be reached by wire yesterday, there were scores of telegrams received at his hotel, the Langdon, offering the services of individuals and organizations. Some who knew that he would be at the Hotel Astor in the evening to dine with Justice Hughes addressed him there.

But the real rush of wires was at Oyster Bay. Yesterday there were so many messages that the special office kept up in the Oyster Bay Inn for use of correspondents at the Bay during the pre-convention period, and which was about to be dismantled, was put into operation.

To provide for the rush which is expected to develop to-day extra operators will be on duty.

The telegrams from the finest type of material for the army. Many of those writing to offer their services have held commissions in the regular army. Others have seen service in the Philippines, while the number of ex-regulars and marine corps men who want to join is legion.

There are numerous applications from young college men and men who have served at Plattsburg. It will be reasonable for Colonel Roosevelt to make any acknowledgment of these wires for some days, if at all. By last night the news of his plan had penetrated the more remote points of the West and Southwest, where the majority of his old comrades in the Rough Riders now live, and unless they lead the wires those who know of their devotion to their old chief will be very much mistaken.

Many of those who apply, however, will be doomed to disappointment. Those who know Colonel Roosevelt's ideas of military preparedness and service know that he is opposed to volunteering of young married men with families dependent upon their earnings for support. Such men will not be accepted, as a rule, though married men of independent means who feel that the service will not be detrimental against.

No Lack in Campaign.

Another type that will be discouraged is the young man who thinks that he will be a great big lark. No man will be welcome who is not absolutely sound, who is not able to take care of himself and his mount in the event of his being assigned to the cavalry, or who is unable or unwilling to do his full share of trench digging.

While military experts, including men of the regular service, who, for obvious reasons could not permit their names to be used, were freely discussing Roosevelt and his division, Colonel Roosevelt had not a word to say.

He arrived at the Langdon about noon from his Oyster Bay home and found a crowd of newspaper men awaiting him and moving picture men awaiting him.

"Not a word, not a word," he declared. "There is not a word for me to say now. Later—well, we shall see."

Colonel Roosevelt was plainly annoyed at the plans which he had not intended should be made public until his volunteers had been called for and the offer made to the President had got into print, but he tacitly admitted that the shouting they went the volunteers' plans were correct.

When he finally worked his way through the crowd to the hotel entrance, and thence to his quarters, he found telegrams and telephone calls awaiting him from men ready to serve. After luncheon the Roosevelt dentist looked over the famous Roosevelt teeth, and then the colonel called at the residence of his daughter, Mrs.

Richard Derby, to see his grandchildren.

There was another group of newspaper men awaiting him when he returned to the hotel in mid-afternoon, but he had no more to tell them than he had to the afternoon men who saw him earlier in the day.

Soon after he was joined by his secretaries, John W. McGrath, who had just arrived from Chicago, where he represented the colonel in the meeting of the Progressive National Committee, and Walter J. Hayes, who had come up from Oyster Bay on a later train with a portfolio bulging with papers. They were with him but a short time when the sound of drums coming down Fifty-sixth Street signalled that the Twelfth Regiment, on its way to the border, was soon to march down the avenue.

Three Cheers for Teddy.

As it swung into the avenue, Colonel Roosevelt could be seen half hidden behind a lace curtain in a window on the sixth floor. Half of the regiment had passed before some one espied him, instantly the cry "Three cheers for Teddy!" and the Chicago convention cry of "We want Teddy!" went up. As quickly the colonel disappeared from the window. It was the Twelfth's show, and apparently he was anxious not to divert any of the attention due it.

In the discussion of the Roosevelt plan yesterday, some critics pointed out that the existing law Colonel Roosevelt is too old to receive a commission. The only relief, they declared, would be a special act of Congress, which they thought it unlikely would be passed by a Democratic Congress and signed by a Democratic President. As a matter of fact, the obstacle is largely imaginary, for before the President raises additional forces a law authorizing him to do so must be passed. Such a bill would, it was thought, carry no such discriminatory clause.

The only thing, therefore, which really would stand in the way would be the will of the President, and there are some who profess to know something of what is going on in Washington who say that the President would welcome an offer of Colonel Roosevelt's services, at the same time intimating that information to that effect has been permitted to reach close friends of the colonel and presumably the colonel.

Others not professing to be in the confidence of Washington, but knowing something of politics, declared that Mr. Wilson was too good a politician to refuse such an offer.

Point Out Wilson Path.

"By refusing," they said, "Mr. Wilson would lay himself open to attack as having through feelings of spite or jealousy deprived the country of the services of an able man, and leave Roosevelt, acknowledged to be the best campaigner in the country, free to stump from coast to coast against him. On the other hand, by appointing him he would make of Roosevelt an asset and at the same time gag him politically, for with an army commission in his pocket he could not, under the regulations, talk politics for any one."

Colonel Roosevelt motored to Oyster Bay last night after his dinner with Justice Hughes and for the present at least is expected to devote all of his time, other than that required for his work on the Metropolitan Magazine, to completing the plans for his division. Politics and politicians, it is expected, will be barred at Sagamore Hill.

It may not be so easy to bar would-be soldiers of the legion, but the geography of Oyster Bay is not calculated to encourage too many visitors. Sagamore Hill is three and a half miles from the station. There are no trolley cars and taxis are few. Moreover, the taxi men, once told not to bring folks to the hill, usually follow orders.

But with all that it would not be surprising if Colonel Roosevelt found it necessary to station one of his farm hands at the foot of the hill to keep visitors out.

SEEKS PROGRESSIVES' AID FOR WILSON

McCormick Likely to Put Moose Leaders on Campaign Committee

One of the more prominent Progressives who may help manage the campaign of President Wilson this fall, Vance McCormick, chairman of the Democratic National Committee, left for Washington last night to confer with President Wilson on the make-up of his campaign committee, and it is understood to be his intention to lay before the President the names of several Progressives for membership in this committee.

When Mr. McCormick was asked as to the probability of the Progressives being given a part in the management of the Wilson and Marshall campaign he refused to comment. He said he could not discuss the personnel of the campaign committee until he had a further conference with the President and the Democratic leaders in Washington.

The Democratic chairman seemed quite positive, however, that President Wilson would receive substantial support from Progressives of prominence. He intimated that he had a surprise in store, and that when it was sprung it would cause a lot of noise.

Mr. McCormick announced that Gordon Auchincloss, son-in-law of Colonel Edward M. House, would help collect for the campaign. He has been appointed assistant treasurer of the committee. Wilbur W. Marsh is treasurer.

WHITMAN WON'T DELAY SHILLITANI EXECUTION

Calls Case Scandal When Convict's Friends Ask Stay.

(By Telegraph to The Tribune.) Albany, June 28.—Governor Whitman today refused to grant a respite to Oreste Shillitani, under sentence to die in the electric chair at Sing Sing on Friday. The condemned man's mother, accompanied by Assemblyman Cesar Barra, made an appeal to the Governor for a respite in order to gain time for an examination into his sanity.

Shillitani escaped from the death house at Sing Sing last week, and with a revolver, secured in some unknown way, killed one guard and wounded two others.

"He is a raving maniac," said Mr. Barra. "We have two physicians examining him as to his sanity, and we ask a short respite pending that examination."

The Governor called the case a scandal, and said that he would not think of delaying the execution. An effort will be made to secure a stay of execution through the courts.

EAST RIVER SUBWAY TUBE NEAR PUNCTURE

Tons of Stone Upset Into Water Almost Above Trains.

The lighter Walter was struggling toward the Battery, with hundreds of tons of stone and flagging aboard, yesterday afternoon, when it collided with the steam lighter Hustler. The Walter, leaning to one side, slid 5,000 feet of curbstones and 800 feet of flagging into the river.

The tremendous weight fell within a few feet of the Brooklyn subway tube. Had it fallen directly upon the tube, harbor men said, it is probable the labor would have crushed the steel and concrete shell.

N. Y. GUARD OFFICERS TO GET HIGHER RANK

O'Ryan Recommends Ten Men to Government for Promotion.

(From The Tribune Bureau.) Washington, June 28.—Important changes among the high officers of New York's National Guard were recommended to the War Department today by Major General O'Ryan, commanding. These promotions, which the War Department is expected to approve, are as follows:

Lieutenant Colonel W. S. McNair, Field Artillery, to be brigadier general commanding Field Artillery Brigade.

Captain Dan W. Hand, Field Artillery, to be major, 1st Field Artillery.

Major Sanford H. Wadhams, Medical Corps, to be major, sanitary inspector.

Captain William E. Welch to be major, brigade adjutant of 1st Infantry Brigade.

Captain Robert S. Thomas, Engineers, to be major, 1st Regiment Engineers.

Captain Grosvenor Townsend to be captain, adjutant 7th New York Infantry, or major, brigade adjutant, 2d Infantry Brigade.

Captain William Haskell to be major, 1st New York Cavalry.

Captain Sherman Miles to be major, 3d Field Artillery, heavy.

Captain George G. White to be lieutenant colonel, 7th Infantry.

Captain W. D. A. Anderson, Engineers, to be chief of staff, division.

Senator O'Gorman urged today that the New York National Guard, which constitutes a division, be kept together in the Mexican trouble if possible.

NAON SURE CLASH WILL BE AVERTED

Argentine Ambassador Has Made No Offer of Mediation, He Says.

"I am confident that the present crisis between the United States and Mexico will be peacefully settled."

This is the opinion of Romulo S. Naon, Argentine Ambassador to this country, expressed in a formal statement issued here yesterday.

The ambassador would not reveal the facts upon which his statement rests, contenting himself by asserting that his "words spoke for themselves."

"I have made no offer of mediation," Mr. Naon said, "but it is unnecessary to say that the Argentine government is always disposed to work for the peace of America."

"Pan-Americanism, which is vital for all the countries of the continent, whether great or small, strong or weak, makes a war between two American nations utterly inconceivable. I am, in candor, confident that the present crisis will be peacefully settled. We must make evident that no matter how great the differences between two American governments the continental interests of union and concord are supreme and inconsistent with recourse to violence as a means of settling international disputes in America."

"The Argentine people and government are following this conflict with the deepest concern and, notwithstanding the acuteness of the crisis, trust that the inspiration of a sound, far-sighted political sense will prevail in these hours, so full of peril for the destinies of the continent."

The ambassador said this city attending to official business, and said he planned to leave in a few days for the summer embassy at Manchester, Mass.

VIENNA SEES U. S. ANNEXATION PLAN

Policy Aims at Seizing Mexico and All Central America, Says Paper.

CALLS IT 'POISONED BOUQUET' FOR WILSON

This Country Unprepared for War and Too Hasty, Asserts Austrian Paper.

Vienna, June 27.—The "Tagblatt," the first Austrian newspaper to comment on the Mexican situation, expresses the opinion that the United States is committed irrevocably to an imperialistic policy which aims at the annexation, not only of Mexico, but of all Central America. It regards the present situation as merely the logical outcome of the imperialistic policy which, it says, was begun under the Cleveland administration, and to which the United States became wedded by the Spanish-American War.

The "Tagblatt" suggests that the unrest in Mexico since the Diaz régime has been fomented secretly by American money to create a situation which appears to warrant interference, ostensibly in the interest of peace. To whatever causes the succession of revolutions may be traceable, says the "Tagblatt," the American policy in any event is little short of "a bouquet of poisoned flowers" for President Wilson at this time, handed to him just at the moment he desired to begin his campaign.

The newspaper gives the President

What Does Your Food Cost?

You could easily spend two dollars for a meal and not get as much real, body-building nutriment as you get in two Shredded Wheat Biscuits, the food that contains all the muscle-making material in the whole wheat grain prepared in a digestible form. Two Shredded Wheat Biscuits with milk or cream will make a complete, perfect meal, at a cost of not over five cents. A food for youngsters and grown-ups. Eat it for breakfast with milk or cream; eat it for luncheon with fresh berries or other fruits. Made at Niagara Falls, N. Y.

AERIAL DERBY HALTED BY CALL TO BORDER

Transcontinental Race Is Indefinitely Postponed.

Demand of the War Department for every available aviator and aeroplane for use on the Mexican border have resulted in the indefinite postponement of the transcontinental race scheduled to be held in September.

In a statement issued by the Aero Club of America yesterday it was explained that the backers of the big aviation event had agreed to forego all other considerations in view of the greater necessities of the nation. The statement followed a conference between officers of the Aero Club, Major C. Hartman and Lieutenant Carberry, representing the War Department; leading manufacturers of aeroplanes and a representative of Ralph Pulitzer, giver of the trophy that initiated the competition.

It was announced that the trophy for which the race was to have been run—

Two eighteen-year-old girls were arraigned in Jefferson Market Court and held in \$1,000 bond yesterday, charged with jostling customers and tinkering with handbags in a Sixth Avenue department store. They described themselves as Catherine Romanella, of 29 Cornelia Street, and Nettie Frattino, of 6 Charles Street.

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2,000 Pipemakers Go Out

If you have an old pipe you'd better stand by it, even though it is a little bitter, until the pipemakers' strike, which went into effect at noon yesterday, has been settled. The 2,000 strikers demand a forty-eight-hour week, a wage increase of between 10 and 15 per cent, and recognition of their union. Strike headquarters have been established at Forward Hall, 175 East Broadway.

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